

REMARKS

In regard to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Weder and the rejection of claims 1, 5 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hall et al., Applicant respectfully disagrees. The Weder uses a pressure sensitive adhesive, see e.g., Abstract, Col. 1, line 37-41, Col. 3, line 24 through Col. 4, line 7, and the Hall patent discloses using an artist's adhesive, Col. 1, lines 59-65, Col. 2 lines 63 through Col. line 4. The Hall patent specifically describes this type of adhesive as one that is designed for "short term or temporary bonding." The mid-term adhesive of Applicant's is neither the pressure sensitive long-term adhesive described by the Weder patent or the short-term adhesive described by the Hall patent. The long-term pressure sensitive adhesive used by the Weder patent and will tend to cause damage to boxes and other paper-based articles for which Applicant's device is designed. The short-term adhesive disclosed by the Hall patent -actually Hall describes a very short-term adhesive but can substitute a short-term adhesive for the very short-term adhesive - will work on short-term wrapping jobs, such as wrapping a gift today for opening tomorrow, but a short-term adhesive will become weak over time and will tend to fail. For a gift bought and wrapped the day after Thanksgiving, a short-term adhesive will not hold properly until Christmas, and as many people will buy and wrap gifts months in

advance, a short-term adhesive. Applicant has found the balance between use of a long-term adhesive which has limited applicability as a wrapping system in that it will may cause damage to sensitive articles wrapped thereby, and the use of a short-term adhesive which has a small time frame for proper working as a wrapping system, by using a mid-term adhesive that will not damage boxes and other paper-based items to which it is attached while allowing proper use for gifts wrapped months in advance.

Additionally, Applicant's invention, as per claim 15, calls for a uniform dispersion of discontinuity of the adhesive which unlike the closely spaced dots or stripes described by the Hall patent will tend to prevent agglomeration of the adhesive over time.

In regard to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1- under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyd, Applicant submits that the Boyd patent fails to teach the use of a mid-term adhesive in a striped pattern, as noted in the Examiner's second paragraph on page 3, and the Examiner has failed to provide any motivation or suggestion as to why Boyd should be modified to include these features. As the Examiner has not rejected claims 1-14 based on Hall in any fashion, the Hall patent will not be discussed.

Therefore, Applicant's invention is novel and non-obvious over the prior art.

As the remaining cited patents are of an incidental nature only, they will not be discussed in detail.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, therefore an early notice to this effect is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing was faxed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Art Unit 1772, fax number (703) 872-9310, this 4th day of February, 2002.



Peter Loffler